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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,802	03/06/2002	Andre Maartens	02814.0054	6653

22852 7590 12/13/2006

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EXAMINER
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FORTUNA, ANA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1723

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/090,802	MAARTENS ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Ana M. Fortuna	1723	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 14 November 2005 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☒ entered.

b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

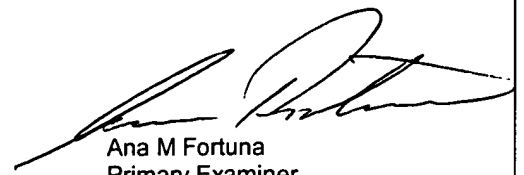
c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

*The entered amendment requires the cancelation of claim 35 and the additional attached Examiner's amendment.*

  
 Ana M Fortuna  
 Primary Examiner  
 Art Unit: 1723

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Tipton D. Jennings on 12/5/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 13, after the word "system" insert - -having the semi permeable membrane- -,

line 14-15, after "tank and", delete a membrane plant", and insert - -the semi-permeable membrane- -;

and delete the term "in the reverse osmosis water purification system".

In claim 15, line 3, after "the" insert - -semi-permeable membrane in the- -.

In claim 21, line 3, delete "for fluid passing through the test membrane".

In claim 33, line 2, after "spiral" insert - -reverse osmosis- -;

Delete the term "and monitoring unit is adapted...system".

In claim 34, line 10; delete "placing", and insert - -wherein- -,

line 11, after "membrane" insert - -placed- -; and

line 12, insert - -as indication of- -, and delete "for deter determining".

Cancel claim 35.

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36. (Presently amended) The method according to [either] claim 34 [or claim 35] wherein the [method includes the step of monitoring fouling of a] semi-permeable membrane is a reverse osmosis membrane.

In claim 41, line 3, before "system", insert - -having a membrane- -.

In claim 42, line 3, after "spiral", insert - -reverse osmosis, and in the same line delete "reverse osmosis;

line 5, before "chemicals", insert - -membrane cleaning- -.

In claim 43, line 2, after "cleaning", insert - -semi-permeable membrane- -, and

In line 15, delete "a membrane plant", and insert - - the at least one water-cleaning semi-permeable membrane unit- -, and

after "fouling of", delete "a", and insert - -the at least one- -;

in line 16, delete "in the water purification system".

In claim 44, line 2, after "system" insert - -having at least one membrane- -;

In line 13, after "simulate" insert - - in the monitoring unit- -, and before "water", insert - -at least one membrane- -; and delete

"water purification system in the monitoring unit".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ana M. Fortuna whose telephone number is (571) 272-1141. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda L. Walker can be reached on (571) 272-1151. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ana M Fortuna  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1723

AF  
December 5, 2006